FROM: (Activity transferring document)	DOCUMENT	DATE	PACKAGE NO.	CONTROL NO.	SUSPENSE DATE
AFXPD-RA		4 Aug 59		XPD 48.302-59	
		CLASSIFICATION	FILE DESIGNATION		

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) (Indicate type (letter, indorsement, etc.), date, number of copies; subject, short title if classified; number of pages; and inclosures; and any other identifying data. Changes in the description (additions, withdrawals, etc.) will be shown with the date and initials of individual making entry.)

(8) Ltr to SAC from AFCVC, subj: AOCPR,Rpp, 5 Aug 59, 1 cy.

TO:		INTERNAL ROUTING		
AFOCP	TO	DATE	TO	DATE
	1 Wm Murphy	25 Aug	4	
	2	30 Sep	5	
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SECRET

5 Aug 59

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Assignment of Operational Planning Responsibility

TO: Commander-in-Chief
Strategic Air Command
Offutt AFB, Nebraska

1. (SECRET). The Strategic Air Command is designated as the Command responsible for operational planning for employment and control of the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System, WS 117-L (SENTRY).

2. (SECRET). The Air Research and Development Command, in collaboration with the Strategic Air Command, will provide assistance, as necessary, to develop the capability to exploit the system to its fullest and at the earliest possible date.

3. (SECRET). It is recognized that during the research and development phase the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System will have operational potential; therefore, in addition to the above instructions, the Strategic Air Command will be responsible for processing data obtained from all reconnaissance satellites and for providing information and data necessary to the continued development and improvement of the SENTRY system.

4. (SECRET). In consideration of current national policies regarding the use of space the following basic classification criteria is established with respect to the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System, WS 117-L (SENTRY).

a. The specific purpose and effectiveness of reconnaissance satellites will be classified TOP SECRET.

b. Strategic Air Command association for operational planning and employment purposes will be classified SECRET.

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO ARDC - INFO CY OF ARDC LETTER SENT TO AFBMD

Coord cy - XPD-PL-SP
Ofc of Sgnr cy - AFOCS
Info cy - AFOCS
File cy - AFCVC
Info cy - AFDAT
Info cy - AFOOP

#169

SECRET

Ltr to SAC, subj: (Unclassified) Assignment of Operational Planning Responsibility (Cont)

c. Strategic Air Command activities reflecting programming, mission control, receipt of data, data processing, or dissemination of data will be classified SECRET.

d. Operational readiness or capability dates will be classified SECRET.

e. All other research and development or planning activities leading toward the development of an operational reconnaissance satellite capability and command assignment will be classified SECRET or in accordance with the WS 117-L Classification Guide, AFDRD, dated 15 March 1959.

f. Dissemination and/or distribution of information relating to the program will be limited to those individuals having an official need to know and who contribute directly to the support of the program. Release of information through public resources will be in accordance with existing policies and directives.

5. (UNCLASSIFIED). All previous instructions contrary to these are hereby rescinded.

6. (UNCLASSIFIED). An identical letter has been forwarded to the Air Research and Development Command.

7. (UNCLASSIFIED). This letter is classified SECRET because it pertains to a program of vital importance to the National Defense.

S/ Curtis E. LeMay
General, US Air Force
Vice Chief of Staff